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FBI Recovers Data in Missile Spying Case

By ERIC MALNIC and RONALD J. OSTROW, Times Staff Writers

SAN FRANCISCO—A "substantial amount" of the secret defense documents said to have been copied by accused spy James Durward Harper Jr. for sale to Polish intelligence agents has been recovered by federal agents, sources close to the investigation said Thursday.

The source declined to say where the documents were found or whether their discovery was based on information supplied by the 49-year-old suspect.

William A. Dougherty, Harper's attorney, said Thursday that his client is negotiating with federal authorities over a potential sentence and told the FBI where the documents were. Dougherty said the missing papers were recovered under resultant search warrants.

Harper Cooperating

Dougherty said he has advised Harper to tell government investigators what he knows, "and he's cooperating. . . .

"He feels he committed a great wrong to his country," Daugherty said. "He has a lot of information. . . ."

Harper was arrested here last Saturday on suspicion of selling Minuteman and ballistic missile defense secrets to Polish agents who relayed them to the Soviet KGB.

The defense data, allegedly sold for more than \$250,000, has a value "beyond calculation" to Warsaw Pact military planners, according to Army missile experts.

In an appearance before U.S. Magistrate Owen Woodruff in federal court here Wednesday, Harper was ordered to remain in custody without bail pending an arraignment hearing scheduled for Nov. 10.

'Expedite Proceedings'

Dougherty has indicated that his client wishes to "cooperate in every way . . . to expedite the proceedings," conceding that such cooperation may benefit his client.

"We're talking about sentencing," the attorney explained.

Harper's longtime friend, William Bell Hugle, 58 of San Jose has been named in affidavits as the man who introduced Harper to Polish spies.

Although he has not been arrested or charged, Hugle—who has appeared secretly before a grand jury looking into the case and is scheduled to appear again today—has refused to emerge from hiding to publicly answer questions about his involvement.